STATE OF ARIZONA



News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FRAUD AWARENESS WEEK EVENT SCHEDULED

(PHOENIX, June 10, 2002) - The Department of Economic Security Aging and Adult Administration and the Arizona Fraud Coalition have scheduled a Fraud Awareness Event to be held at the Heard Museum, 2301 North Central Avenue in Phoenix on June 20, 2002 starting at 9:30 a. m. This event is in keeping with a proclamation issued by Governor Jane Dee Hull designating June 16-22 as Fraud Awareness week.

The Arizona Fraud Coalition consists of the Better Business Bureau, AARP, AHCCCS, Arizona Department of Insurance, Attorney General's Office, and the Area Agency on Aging. They will be presenting information to the public concerning the different types of fraud in the areas of Medicare, insurance, consumer, identity and telemarketing scams.

The Area Agencies on Aging have planned several events statewide which will be coordinated by their Senior Patrol Project also sponsored by the DES Aging and Adult Administration. The Senior Patrol Project uses senior volunteers who have been trained to help individuals spot and report suspicious or questionable activity on their Medicare and AHCCCS medical bills. The goals of the volunteer group is to reduce and prevent fraudulent practices and to report fraud by providers and suppliers.

The public is encouraged to attend to learn more about fraud prevention. Persons with a disability may request reasonable accommodations such as a sign language interpreter and persons requiring more information may call Ada Leach at 602-542-6439.